



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 4 September 2007

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)  
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- According to the Associated Press, The blistering heat wave blanketing California continued to place tremendous strain on the power grid, as some 2,600 homes and businesses in Los Angeles remained without power Saturday after overloaded circuits knocked out power to thousands last week. (See item [1](#))
- The Associated press reports Miles of rocky shoreline and mangrove thickets have been fouled by a fuel spill drifting along Puerto Rico's southwest coast. (See item [5](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump***

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#); [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

## **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: **ELEVATED**,  
Cyber: **ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 3, AP* – **California Heat Wave Causes Power Shortages, Extreme Weather Grips State.** With temperatures expected to be well above 100 degrees again Sunday, California officials were appealing to residents to turn down their air conditioners and hold off on using major appliances until after dark. The blistering heat wave blanketing California continued to place tremendous strain on the power grid, as some 2,600 homes and businesses in Los Angeles remained without power Saturday after overloaded circuits knocked out power to thousands last week. The California Independent System Operator, which oversees the state's power grid, said no major shortages were expected through Monday.  
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,295540,00.html>

2. *August 31, Bloomberg.com* – **Potential storm leads to crude oil price increase.** Crude oil rose to its highest price since in almost a month on concern that a strengthening storm in the Atlantic Ocean may intensify and threaten rigs and pipelines in the Gulf of Mexico. A weather system east of the Windward Islands may become a tropical depression later today, the Miami-based National Hurricane Center said on its Web site. About 27 percent of U.S. oil production comes from the Gulf, Energy Department data show. The weather disturbance ``has the potential of turning into a hurricane in a few more days," said the director of oil market analysis at PFC Energy in Washington. The price of crude oil peaked at \$74.44 a barrel today.  
Source:  
[http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=au9215FSd\\_ZM&refer=energy](http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=au9215FSd_ZM&refer=energy)

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## **Chemical Industry**

3. *August 31, Concord Monitor* – **Chemical spill at a New Hampshire nanotechnology company sent one person to the hospital.** The spill occurred just before noon in a laboratory when an employee opened a package of ammonium hydroxide - a corrosive liquid that can irritate the lungs and burn skin and eyes. The employee who opened the package was washed down and transported to Concord Hospital for minor injuries. Local firefighters responded with a hazardous materials team to clear the area.  
Source:  
<http://www.concordmonitor.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070831/NEWS01/708310322>
4. *August 31, International Herald Tribune* – **U.N. chief orders investigation into discovery of chemical warfare agent.** Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Friday ordered an investigation into the discovery of a potentially hazardous Iraqi chemical warfare agent stored at a U.N. office in New York City. The inquiry will examine the circumstances under which the substances were brought to U.N. headquarters from Iraq in 1996, the reasons why the discovery was only made in 2007, and safety procedures at headquarters and in the field, said a statement from Ban's spokesperson.  
Source: [http://www.ihf.com/articles/ap/2007/08/31/news/UN-GEN-UN-Chemical-Agents.php?WT.mc\\_id=rssamerica](http://www.ihf.com/articles/ap/2007/08/31/news/UN-GEN-UN-Chemical-Agents.php?WT.mc_id=rssamerica)
5. *August 31, AP* – **Puerto Rico Shoreline Blackened By Fuel Spill.** Miles of rocky shoreline and mangrove thickets have been fouled by a fuel spill drifting along Puerto Rico's southwest coast. Authorities were still investigating the origin of the spill, which stretched along an estimated eight miles of shoreline from the southwestern town of Guanica to Guayanilla Bay. So far, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service personnel had not received any reports of birds or fish being killed by the spill. Investigators were inspecting three ships anchored in Guayanilla Bay and questioning their owners to try to discover the origin of the fuel, believed to be bunker oil, used to power older vessels.  
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,295466,00.html>

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste**

6. *August 31, Rocky Mountain News* – **Troops, workers paid steep price for nuclear weapons.** The U.S. nuclear weapons program has sickened 36,500 Americans and killed more than 4,000, the Rocky Mountain News has determined from government figures. The numbers include people who mined uranium, built bombs, and breathed dust from bomb tests. Many of the bomb-builders have never applied for compensation or were rejected because they could not prove their work caused their illnesses. Congressional hearings are in the works to review allegations of unfairness and delays in the program for weapons workers. More than 15,000 of the 36,500 are workers who made atomic weapons. They were exposed to radiation and toxic chemicals that typically took years to trigger cancer or lung disease. Others affected by exposure to radiation and toxic chemicals include civilians living near the Nevada test site during above-ground nuclear tests, military personnel and workers at test sites, and uranium miners and millers who breathed in radioactive dust until 1972 when the government stopped buying uranium. At least 4,000 of the 36,500 died.  
Source: [http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/local/article/0,1299,DRMN\\_15\\_5686694,00.html](http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/local/article/0,1299,DRMN_15_5686694,00.html)
7. *August 30, WMUR* – **Vermont nuclear plant goes into automatic shutdown during a test.** The Vermont Yankee nuclear plant went into automatic shutdown, or scram, Thursday during what plant officials said was testing of a turbine valve. "Plant technicians are in the process of investigating the cause of the automatic shutdown. The plant remains in a safe and stable condition and will be restarted after a thorough evaluation of the shutdown is completed," said a statement issued by plant owner Entergy Nuclear. Diane Screnci, spokeswoman for the Northeast regional office of the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission, said the NRC had confirmed that the plant was in a safe and stable condition, but could not immediately provide further details Thursday afternoon.  
Source: <http://www.wmur.com/news/14015043/detail.html>
8. *August 30, Environment News Service* – **Nuclear plant misses public emergency notification deadline.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission today issued a Notice of Violation to Entergy for its repeated failure to meet established deadlines to achieve operability of a new alert and notification system for the Indian Point nuclear power plant. Entergy operates the plant, and was ordered to receive approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency prior to an August 24, 2007 deadline to declare the new emergency notification system operable. Critics warn that the plant lacks a workable evacuation plan, and is vulnerable to terrorist attack. Twenty million people live within the 50 mile "peak injury" zone of Indian Point.  
Source: <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/aug2007/2007-08-30-096.asp>
9. *August 30, Platts* – **Incoming Department of Energy nuclear complex chief calls for new focus and security improvements.** The US Department of Energy's nuclear complex needs to shift its focus from weapons production to such activities as intelligence and nonproliferation, the official responsible for managing the agency's complex said Thursday. "A transformation needs to happen," said a DOE's National Nuclear Security Administration spokesman. One of his priorities, he said, is improved federal oversight of contractors, especially in safety and security. For years, DOE has been plagued by a series of security breaches, particularly at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. There have been recent moves at Los

Alamos to improve security practices.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/6450943.xml?sub=Nuclear&p=Nuclear/News&?undefined&undefined>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

10. *August 31, Reuters* – **U.S. anti-missile laser passes low-power tests.** Flight tests of a laser-equipped Boeing Co. 747 showed its onboard systems can complete all steps needed to intercept a ballistic missile. The Pentagon's Missile Defense Agency, hailed the low-power tests that ended August 23, as a "critically important milestone" for the \$3.8 billion Airborne Laser program, or ABL. The ABL would be the first combat aircraft to rely entirely on a laser as a weapon. As part of an emerging U.S. ballistic missile shield, it would target a missile's "boost phase," the first few minutes of flight when it is most vulnerable.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070831/us\\_nm/missile\\_boeing\\_lockheed\\_dc;\\_ylt=AghY2WUhtlubUWEhvLPBs2cWIr0F](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070831/us_nm/missile_boeing_lockheed_dc;_ylt=AghY2WUhtlubUWEhvLPBs2cWIr0F)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

11. *August 30, El Paso Times* — **Warrant ties former Access chief to bribery, fraud.** The case involving the former president and CEO of Access HealthSource brought to light new documents showing wire fraud, money laundering, theft or bribery and mail fraud activities. The documents came from federal authorities, who issued a seizure warrant to confiscate the suspect's assets. An ongoing controversy regarding these assets was stirred when Greater El Paso Credit Union filed a civil suit to legally establish the rightful owner of the assets, the F.B.I. or Apodaca. Access HealthSource is currently under investigation as part of a wide-range operation conducted by the F.B.I. Until now, three individuals have pleaded guilty to the charges brought to them by federal authorities.

Source: [http://www.elpasotimes.com/publiccorruption/ci\\_6754219](http://www.elpasotimes.com/publiccorruption/ci_6754219)

12. *August 30, National Post, Canada* — **Canadian sentenced to six years for massive U.S. fraud.** Described by prosecutors as "one of the most devastating investor frauds in America," the Grenada scheme involving bogus offshore accounts came to an end. The Canadian headmaster of the infamous fraud, Larry Barnabe, was sentenced this week to six years in prison and obliged to pay \$26 million restitution and forfeit money in Canadian banks. Barnabe was charged with securities infractions in 1996 when he fled Canada and moved to Grenada. His new residence became the scene of activities involving "bogus bank investment to pensioners and credulous investors in Canada and the United States." Alongside several of his 'trainees,' Barnabe set up and ran offshore banks carrying well-known names such as Fidelity International Bank and First International Bank of Grenada. The team tricked thousands of naïve investors by paying them interest coming from the money deposited by other clients, following the classical scenario of a pyramid scheme.

Source: <http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/news/story.html?id=30873451-4fd1-47e7-9099-30b3231b9928&k=0>

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

13. *August 31, AP* — **Border may close due to pension protests.** Because of massive protests held in Mexico over pension laws, U.S. Customs and Border Protection informed travelers that the San Diego border crossing streets might be closed today. According to a Mexican news report, the traffic might be blocked for up to six hours at San Ysidro and at Otay Mesa. In light of this information, the California Highway Patrol announced its plan to close all southbound traffic on interstates 5 and 805 just north of the San Ysidro crossing at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, and the possibility of blocking state highway 905 southbound lanes near the Otay Mesa crossing. CBP also is planning on closing the pedestrian bridge. Friday's protests will prevent approximately 30,000 pedestrians, 35,000 vehicles and 250 buses to enter the U.S. at San Ysidro, the busiest border crossing nationwide.

Source:

<http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070831/NEWS06/708310332/1050>

14. *August 31, Washington Post* — **After inspection, bridge closed for repairs.** A 125-old bridge was closed in Northern Virginia after engineers estimated the span deteriorated rapidly after its last inspection in July. The bridge, which was built with wooden panels, was recommended for repairs in 2003 and 2006, but was never fixed. Norfolk Southern Railway, which owns the bridge, stated the bridge did not undergo previous changes because it is listed as a historic construction, but in light of the new estimations, it will be fixed in a approximately a week. The state officials would prefer to replace the bridge completely and even offered a substantial financial contribution, but the responsibility of the necessary repairs lies with the railroad. The repairs for the bridge, which carries about 1,750 vehicles daily, carry a tag of \$830,000.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/30/AR2007083002005.html>

15. *August 30, ABC-KJO* — **Tourists get ready for Bay Bridge closures.** California travelers had met an inconvenient obstacle on their Labor Day weekend trip: the closure of the Bay Bridge in San Francisco. The bridge, which is crossed by an average of 250,000 people daily, will undergo major changes: the old section of the upper deck just east of Yerba Buena Island will be demolished. The work will be finished by Tuesday morning when the bridge will reopen for busy commuters, who live and work on Treasure Island, said the engineers in charge of the project. In order to prevent transportation discrepancies, various transportation agencies prepared contingency plans- extra trains and boats- in the event the bridge will not be finished on the time.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=local&id=5621588>

16. *August 30, WMUR Channel 9* — **I-93 widening project hits a road block.** A bridge located on Interstate 93 South before exit 5, had been labeled 'structurally deficient' since 1981. State officials produced a plan to repair all bridges on I 93 starting last year, but a judge "ruled that

the plans were inadequate.” Currently, 18 bridges out of the 49 located on I93 need to undergo major repairs. Officials are debating the course of action necessary for these bridges fearing that work could take years.

Source: <http://www.wmur.com/news/14015767/detail.html>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to Report

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

17. *August 31, Seattle Times* – **Warning on beef as E. coli sickens 6.** Six people in Washington State have been sickened by ground beef containing E. coli. A federal consumer alert was issued Thursday after investigators tracked the illnesses, along with two others in Oregon, to a single strain of E. coli 0157: H7 bacteria in ground beef produced by Oregon-based Interstate Meats. The products subject to the U.S. Food Safety Inspection Service-ordered alert, were sold under the brand name, "Northwest Finest," and include 16-ounce packages of "Northwest Finest 7% fat, natural ground beef (UPC 752907 600127) and 16 ounce packages of "Northwest Finest 10% fat, Organic Ground Beef (no UPC available). Each package bore the establishment number "Est. 965" inside the U.S. Department of Agriculture mark of inspection, and had sell-by dates between Aug. 1 and Aug. 11. They were produced between July 19 and 30 and distributed in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, the state Department of Health said.

Source: [http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/health/2003861637\\_ecoli31m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/health/2003861637_ecoli31m.html)

18. *August 31, AP* – **Ag. Sec. wants farm subsidy limit.** According to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns, the farm bill passed last month by the House did not set the cap for receiving federal subsidies low enough. Under the current bill no farmer earning over \$1 million a year would be eligible for subsidies. Johanns and President Bush want that cap lowered to \$250,000 a year. Bush has threatened to veto the bill.

Source: [http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=D8RBV3AO0&show\\_article=1&catnum=1](http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=D8RBV3AO0&show_article=1&catnum=1)

19. *August 31, Reuters* – **Dole Food takes new steps to head off more E. coli.** Following last week's E. coli incident, Dole Food Company has increased testing and tracking of produce to prevent future outbreaks. Eric Schwartz, Dole's president for worldwide vegetables, told Reuters in an interview the company is testing samples from every acre of spinach and other vegetables that will be marketed under the Dole label. If a harmful bacterium or other problem is detected, plants from that area will not enter the processing chain. Dole also is putting in place a new electronic system it hopes will speed the ability to trace problems when they occur. It will be able to pinpoint where, within 30 feet, any batch of spinach was grown.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070830/us\\_nm/dole\\_ecoli\\_safety\\_dc;\\_ylt=Al3P.5x42jZg\\_2uBhqyAlkWIrOF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070830/us_nm/dole_ecoli_safety_dc;_ylt=Al3P.5x42jZg_2uBhqyAlkWIrOF)

20. *August 31, WZZM* – **Oceana County seeking drought emergency declaration for crops.** Leaders in Oceana County, Michigan say they want Governor Granholm or federal officials to declare a drought emergency. Oceana County's board of commissioners sent a request to the governor and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Commissioners say dry conditions damaged much of the county's asparagus crop in May and June, resulting in lower yields. They say this summer's dry, hot weather also damaged other crops like apples, cherries, corn, and Christmas trees.  
Source: [http://www.wzzm13.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=80178](http://www.wzzm13.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=80178)

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## **Water Sector**

21. *August 31, CBS/KDKA* – **Problems persist after Oakland water main break.** The Oakland water line may be fixed, but a boil water advisory is still in affect. The break sent over a million gallons of water rushing into the streets of Oakland and left thousands of homes and businesses with no water or low water pressure. Though crews have since repaired the line connecting an Oakland pump station to the Herron Hill Reservoir, many people either still don't have water service or are dealing with low water pressure this morning. As a safety precaution, the Allegheny County Health Department has issued a boil water advisory for affected residents in Greenfield, Oakland, Polish Hill, Shadyside, Squirrel Hill and the Hill District.  
Source: [http://kdka.com/local/local\\_story\\_243073143.html](http://kdka.com/local/local_story_243073143.html)
22. *August 30, WTAE* – **Why all the water main breaks in Pittsburgh?** Pittsburgh may suffer more water main breaks because, as an older American city, it has older infrastructure. Funding coming from Washington and the state capital in Harrisburg is limited. The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority spends about \$5 million a year repairing and replacing aging water lines. Experts said that's less than 10 times what's actually needed.  
Source: <http://www.thepittsburghchannel.com/news/14015189/detail.html>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

23. *September 1, Forbes* – **First New Smallpox Vaccine Since 1931 Approved by FDA.** After a number of clinical trials, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has announced the licensing of a new smallpox vaccine. The vaccine, ACAM2000, made by Acambis Inc. of Cambridge, England, will be for inoculating people at high risk of exposure to smallpox and could be used to protect individuals and populations during a bioterrorist attack. Although the vaccine is designed to be available to those who would be most exposed to smallpox initially, the supply would also be much more available to the general population with the production of ACAM2000.  
Source: <http://www.forbes.com/forbeslife/health/feeds/hscout/2007/09/01/hscout607880.html>
24. *August 31, Winnipeg Sun* – **Manitoba's West Nile toll may double.** According to the

province's chief medical officer, Manitoba's death toll from West Nile virus could easily be twice that of last year's. 355 individuals have tested positive for the infection and 21 have been confirmed to have the more severe neurological syndrome. Experts project three or four deaths from the disease this summer. Manitoba shares its southern border with Minnesota and North Dakota. Fortunately, the northern sections of both states are sparsely populated.

Source: <http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Canada/2007/08/31/4460053-sun.html>

25. *August 31, ABC News, Australia* – **Bird flu could have become world wide pandemic: study.** A new study by the University of Washington has apparently confirmed that the H5N1 virus was transmitted from human to human for the first time last year on the Indonesian island of Sumatra. A woman there contracted the virus from poultry in May and passed it on to her 10-year old nephew. The disease then spread to other relatives, killing seven of the eight family members who contracted it. According to the study's lead researcher, Ira Longini, this proves that person-to-person transmission is possible. Longini stated: "We're going to see strains of influenza that are capable of causing pandemics arising, probably avian strains, and that will happen for sure, there's no doubt about it." According to, Dr Alan Hampson, a member of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Pandemic Taskforce and an adviser to the Australian Government on influenza, the virus behaved as the WHO had expected, changing as it spread from one person to another. He added that the virus is very good at adapting and that the Sumatra case could have become a pandemic.

Source: <http://abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/08/31/2021231.htm?section=world>

26. *August 31, Vietnam Net* – **Vietnam to share bird flu related information** Vietnam is willing to share all the information it has gathered in relation to the country's battles with bird flu, particularly virus samples found on humans or animals, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Bui Ba Bong said at an international workshop in Ha Noi on August 27-28. At the workshop, experts from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and domestic experts discussed some of the more problematic issues surrounding bird flu in Vietnam. FAO expert Les Sim said Vietnam has been doing well in dealing with difficult virus to contain, and added that his organization would further provide technical assistance to the country.

Source: <http://english.vietnamnet.vn/social/2007/08/735816/>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

27. *August 30, Online Athens* – **Biodefense lab pitched as no threat.** Thursday night, the University of Georgia research chief, tried to assure neighbors of a proposed biodefense lab that the facility would pose no danger to the community. Earlier this summer, a U.S. Department of Homeland Security review team chose a UGA-owned site off South Milledge Avenue, along with four other proposals, as candidates to host the National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility. Groups in Texas, Kansas, North Carolina and Mississippi also are competing to house the facility. Lee told the audience that the facility will have so many redundant safety and security measures and systems that, even in a power loss like the recent one at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, the building would have an air-tight lock-down system. Construction, transportation, waste removal and other processes that involve

interaction with the environment outside the facility also are highly scrutinized by a number of regulating agencies, Lee said.

Source: [http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/083107/news\\_20070831039.shtml](http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/083107/news_20070831039.shtml)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

28. *August 31, Coulee News* – **CERT training put into action to help in aftermath of flooding in Wisconsin.** For the past few years, La Crosse County has been hosting emergency training sessions for area residents. Last weekend, at least six people who had gone through the county's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program volunteered their time to help emergency management officials with the aftermath of the flooding in southern La Crosse County and northern Vernon County. The CERT training involves 21 hours of classroom and hands-on work covering a wide variety of topics related to dealing with the aftermath of a major disaster. CERT trainees learn, for example, about creating emergency kits, fire safety, basic first aid, search and rescue, disaster psychology and incident command structure.

Source: <http://www.couleenews.com/articles/2007/08/31/news/03cert.txt>

29. *August 31, Department of Homeland Security* – **More Than 1,700 Organizations to Participate in Fourth Annual Homeland Security National Preparedness Month** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced today that more than 1,700 national, regional, state, and local organizations will support the department by participating in National Preparedness Month 2007. This campaign occurs annually in September, and encourages Americans to prepare for all types of emergencies in their homes, businesses, schools, and communities. DHS promotes individual emergency preparedness through the Ready Campaign and the department's Citizen Corps Program throughout the year.

Source: [http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr\\_1188576776209.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1188576776209.shtm)

30. *August 30, Orlando Business Journal* – **Emergency Medicine gets state contract.** Orlando-based Emergency Medicine Learning and Resource Center was awarded a second-year \$200,000 contract with the state Department of Health to provide training focused on bio-terrorism and weapons of mass destruction preparedness across the state. The contract calls for 100 days of medical simulation training for emergency medical service personnel to help them recognize and treat victims of chemical or biological injuries. The company uses its specialized 45-foot mobile emergency medical simulation lab that includes a full ambulance bay and emergency department area to train first responders.

Source: [http://www.bizjournals.com/orlando/stories/2007/08/27/daily37.html?ana=from\\_rss](http://www.bizjournals.com/orlando/stories/2007/08/27/daily37.html?ana=from_rss)

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## **Information Technology**

31. *August 31, Computerworld* – **Bank of India site hacked, serves up 22 exploits.** The Bank of India Web site was hacked sometime Wednesday night and seeded with a wide array of malware that infected any users running unpatched browsers, security researchers said today.

Although the bank's site had been scoured of all malware by Friday morning, it remained offline. "This site is under temporary maintenance and will be available after 09:00 IST on 1.09.07," a message read. According to researchers at Sunbelt Software Inc., which first posted details of the hack yesterday afternoon, the malware included one worm, three rootkits, five Trojan downloaders, and several password stealers. How it was hacked, however, is yet unknown, as is how many bank customers might have been infected by the attacks. Sunbelt's CEO said all clues point to the notorious Russian Business Network (RBN) gang, dubbed "the baddest of the bad" by VeriSign iDefense. The Bank of India hack is only the latest example of a legitimate Web site being compromised, and serving up malware to unwary visitors. In the U.S., the most serious incident was earlier this year, when the site belonging to Dolphin Stadium, host to the National Football League's Super Bowl, was hacked just days before the big game.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9033999&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9033999&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

32. *August 31, Computerworld* – **Another laptop theft: this time Connecticut's revenue agency.**

The Connecticut Department of Revenue Services (DRS) disclosed earlier this week that a laptop containing personally identifiable data on more than 106,000 taxpayers had gone missing. The department offered few details on what had happened or when the laptop was stolen, but said the missing laptop was password protected and contained details such as Social Security numbers and taxpayer names. The incident marked the third report this week of a laptop containing sensitive data being stolen in the U.S. Connecticut Gov. Jodi Rell has directed the state's CIO to come up with a laptop computer security policy and associated guidelines for state employees. The policy will require agencies to monitor and restrict sensitive data on laptops and expand the use of secure data access and transport tools, including virtual private network technology. Rell also ordered the state's IT group to accelerate the selection and deployment of encryption tools for use by agencies.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9033978&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9033978&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

33. *August 31, Techworld* – **Wireless technology hits security budgets.** Wireless technology is now a major worry for most companies, so much so that many predict security spending rising by up to 20 percent to patch up its weaknesses. This is one of the conclusions from an international survey carried out by Cisco, which polled 700 decision makers in the U.S., the U.K., Germany, China, India, South Korea, and Singapore on their spending plans in the next year. Three quarters of respondents said that security spending was going to rise because of wireless and mobile technology, with half figuring this as a rise of 10 percent, and a further 10 percent predicting a 20 percent rise in costs. The report attributes the predicted increases to a rapacious demand for connectivity that has outpaced concerns over security, and concludes that companies now face a period of catch-up. "Many users say they aren't always aware of security concerns," the report says. "Many mobile employees say they access unauthorized wireless networks in public places and in their neighborhoods. Many say they don't encrypt data on their wireless devices or set passwords to prevent physical access to their information. And, inevitably, some mobile users lose their devices or suffer from theft."

Source: <http://www.techworld.com/security/news/index.cfm?newsID=9962&pagtype=all>

34. *August 30, Computerworld* – **Hacks hit embassy, government e-mail accounts worldwide.**

Username and passwords for more than 100 e-mail accounts at embassies and governments worldwide have been posted online. Using the information, anyone can access the accounts that have been compromised. The posted information includes names of the embassies and governments, addresses to e-mail servers, usernames and passwords. Among the organizations on the list are the foreign ministry of Iran, the Kazakh and Indian embassies in the U.S. and the Russian embassy in Sweden. Of the compromised accounts, 10 belong to the Kazakh embassy in Russia. Around 40 belong to Uzbeki embassies and consulates around the world. Login details for e-mail accounts at the U.K. visa office in Nepal were also posted, as they were for the foreign ministry of Iran, the Kazakh and Indian embassies in the U.S. and the Russian embassy in Sweden.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9033823&intsrc=hm\\_list](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9033823&intsrc=hm_list)

35. *August 30, Computerworld* – **Two more laptop thefts expose employee data.** A laptop containing unencrypted personal data on current and former employees of the former AT&T Corp. was stolen recently from the car of an employee of a professional services firm doing work for the company. That theft prompted the company to notify an unspecified number of individuals about the potential compromise of their Social Security numbers, names and other personal details. A spokesman for AT&T today confirmed the July 27 incident and said it affected only people who were employees of AT&T before it was acquired by SBC Communications Inc. in 2005 and became AT&T Inc. No data involving employees of SBC, BellSouth or Cingular was affected, the spokesman said. According to the spokesman the data “was not stored in a way that was consistent with AT&T policies,” which call for encryption of sensitive data as well as “physical security measures.” In an unrelated incident, the Maryland Department of the Environment (DOE) said in a statement yesterday that a laptop belonging to an employee had been recently stolen from a vehicle. The computer contained four state databases with personal information from licenses issued by various agencies. The data included Social Security numbers, names, addresses and phone numbers. According to the agency, the information on the computer was password-protected but there was no mention of whether it was encrypted or not.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9033813&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9033813&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## **Communications Sector**

36. *August 31, Associated Press* – **Municipal Wi-Fi Faces Financial Hurdles.** Many U.S. cities are reassessing the financial viability of plans to build Internet networks that would provide city-wide online access. MuniWireless estimates Wi-Fi networks have either already been built or are under consideration in 455 cities and counties across the United States, up from 122 two years ago. But the problems came into sharper focus this week as projects in Chicago and San Francisco fell through, and another in Houston neared a breaking point. The second thoughts about municipal Wi-Fi revolve around questions about whether the networks will generate enough revenue to justify the multimillion-dollar investments to build and maintain them. Many of the projects are in jeopardy as a result of one large Wi-Fi provider's announcement this week that it is no longer willing provide the initial investments to build the networks. The decision reflects prevailing concerns that companies will be unable to attract enough wireless customers to recoup the multi-million dollar investments.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/31/AR2007083100297.html>

37. *August 30, Reuters* – **Regulators move to fine wireless carriers over 911 service.** Regulators said on Thursday they had proposed penalizing three wireless carriers which the government says failed to meet new stricter standards for being able to locate cellular telephone callers in an emergency. The Federal Communications Commission said it proposed fines totaling \$2.825 million against the three wireless carriers for failing to meet the new standards which require all carriers to ensure that by the end of 2005, 95 percent of their subscribers have handsets with enhancements that would enable emergency workers to locate someone who has dialed 911 from a cellular telephone. The FCC Chairman said in a statement that the carriers “failed to meet this critical deadline by a significant margin, despite the clear requirements of the Commission and the needs of their consumers.”

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070831/bs\\_nm/wireless\\_fcc\\_dc;\\_ylt=AgU8Rd6.b2u\\_cnWSzRnQzcQWIr0F](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070831/bs_nm/wireless_fcc_dc;_ylt=AgU8Rd6.b2u_cnWSzRnQzcQWIr0F)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

38. *August 31, Newsday* – **Sprinklers were shut off at site of fatal New York fire.** The absence of a working sprinkler system in the former Deutsche Bank Building where two firefighters died Aug. 18 was not an accident, city and state officials said Thursday. Shutting off the system was a deliberate decision made by regulators well before workers started taking apart the toxic, flammable building. The deadly fire at the former Deutsche Bank building probably started after a worker failed to stamp out a cigarette on the 17th floor. Firefighters faced a host of obstacles in addition to the absence of a sprinkler system, including blocked stairwells, piles of flammable materials and a broken central water pipe.

Source: [http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/asection/la-na-nyfire31aug31,1,1706571.story?coll=la-news-a\\_section](http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/asection/la-na-nyfire31aug31,1,1706571.story?coll=la-news-a_section)

39. *August 30, Sierra Sun* – **Bomb threat clears Boatworks mall.** A bomb threat Thursday afternoon at a Tahoe City restaurant prompted about 100 people to evacuate the Boatworks Mall. As there was no evidence that explosives were planted in the building, evacuation was voluntary. A subsequent search of the building found nothing.

Source: [http://www.whptv.com/news/local/story.aspx?content\\_id=c27c2395-5b9a-4b21-9f4f-61fd35607e0e](http://www.whptv.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=c27c2395-5b9a-4b21-9f4f-61fd35607e0e)

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

40. *August 31, Saint Louis Today* – **Park Service surprised by Arch Plan.** Frank Mares, a veteran official with the National Park Service in St. Louis, said Thursday that his agency was taken aback by the proposal from Mayor Francis Slay and former Sen. John Danforth to obtain part of the Gateway Arch grounds for a project to revamp the city's waterfront. Mares said that it was difficult to understand the sudden need to use the Arch ground and that the National Park Service rarely gives up land.

Source:

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/stlouiscitycounty/story/2D43EA127FE0C306862573480003E750?OpenDocument>

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## **Dams Sector**

41. *August 30, WHP TV, Harrisburg* – **Dam to be demolished.** The Wittlinger Dam in Cumberland County, PA is set for demolition. The dam was constructed by hand more than 200 years ago and was used to power an old mill in Boiling Springs. In recent years the dam has fallen into disrepair and is now considered a safety hazard. The dam will be torn down within the next 30 days.

Source: [http://www.whptv.com/news/local/story.aspx?content\\_id=4c86e92f-014a-4b79-b6ef-deded3f8cfe0](http://www.whptv.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=4c86e92f-014a-4b79-b6ef-deded3f8cfe0)

42. *August 30, WHP TV, Harrisburg* – **Lake to be lowered for dam repairs.** A lake at Gifford Pinchot State Park in York County, PA will be lowered starting the day after Labor Day in order to repair a stilling basin located at the base of a dam there.

Source: [http://www.whptv.com/news/local/story.aspx?content\\_id=c27c2395-5b9a-4b21-9f4f-61fd35607e0e](http://www.whptv.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=c27c2395-5b9a-4b21-9f4f-61fd35607e0e)

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To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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